



Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2012  
Location: Legislative Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor House Hearing Room  
411 Legislative Avenue, Dover, DE 19901

In attendance:

S. Aguilar  
C. Alemán  
R. Calvachi-Mateyko  
J. Cohan  
M. González  
Z. Guajardo  
R. Heflin  
M. Hernandez-Saienni  
J. Irizzary  
J. Martinez  
M. Matos  
J. Miro (Interim Co-Chair)  
L. Puig  
E. Ramos  
V. Rapposelli (Interim Chair)  
S. Rose  
K. Smith  
S. Spangler  
J. Torrijos  
S. Uhthoff

Absent:

M. Heckles  
T. Merced  
B. Rodriguez

Also in attendance: Lydia E. DeLeon (Westside Family Healthcare), Angeles LoPiccolo (Westside Family Healthcare), Stephanie Traynor (Supporting Kidds), Jamiera Burke (DMV), Natalie White (DMV), and Sylvia Cowell (Schwartz Center for the Arts)

- I. The meeting commenced with the approval of the January 17, 2012 minutes.
- II. A change was made to the draft Bylaws to change the word “assistance” to “services” under Article I Section D. The bylaws were subsequently approved by all members.
- III. “101” Presentation/Development of Subcommittees: After the “101” presentation, a determination was made to form eight subcommittees that will focus on identifying the immediate needs of the Hispanic community in

Delaware. The areas of focus are relative to Executive Order #28 (EO#28). The subcommittees are:

- Legal
- Transportation
- Education
- Health & Social Services
- Community
- Economic Development
- Housing
- Social Justice

It was discussed that all subcommittees can include non-members and no approval was needed to include additional members. It is expected that each subcommittee should meet by April 15, 2012 and updates should be submitted to Evelyn Ayala prior to the next Commission meeting scheduled for May 15, 2012. The subcommittee's initial charge is to focus on identifying the issues within their respective group and the Commission members spearheading each subcommittee will return to the Commission and provide updates relative to their group to the extent that they are within the scope of EO#28.

Subcommittee meetings should be held in a public location and notice of all subcommittee meeting dates and locations should be identified and provided to Evelyn Ayala who will then pass the information along to appropriate media personnel for public announcement.

- IV. The Mission Statement was accepted as outlined in Article I of the Bylaws.
- V. Open Discussion – J. Cohan provided the Commission members with several brochures and pamphlets that had been translated into Spanish relating to the Division of Motor Vehicle driver services. J. Cohan encouraged the members to disseminate the information to the Hispanic community in an effort to educate those individuals who are unregistered or unlicensed residents.

Representative Miro provided information regarding a recent Dream Act bill that will provide financial support to undocumented youth who have at least three years of high school, have graduated or have intentions on attending a college or university. The information regarding the Dream Act bill was provided as informational and understood by the members that the Commission was not to take a formal position on the bill.

Sylvia Cowell from the Schwartz Center for the Arts spoke about an upcoming two day Hispanic Heritage Month event scheduled for October 19th and 20th, 2012. Dr. Christine Cannon, of the Arsht Cannon Fund is collaborating with the Schwartz Center to present two days of cultural events and present issues to the entire population of Delaware regarding the Hispanic members of our State. Ms. Cowell has requested assistance from the Commission in identifying other Hispanic community leaders in the field of law, education, health, etc. to join

them on panel discussions. Please contact Ms. Cowell at [pianochoir@comcast.net](mailto:pianochoir@comcast.net) with any interest, suggestions or thoughts.

VI. Future Meeting Dates:

May 15, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

July 17, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

September 18, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

November 20, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

All meetings will be held at:  
Legislative Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor House Hearing Room  
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